ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR 1967

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TO THE

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1967. I wish to thank the Public Health Inspector for his assistance in preparation of my report.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. HASSAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1967

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SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	36,971 acres
Population	2,060

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book.

Alston Ward	550
Nenthead Ward	183
Garrigill Ward	131
Total	864

Rateable Value (1st April, 1967)	£48,257
Penny Rate Product	£185

COMMENT.

Nineteen sixty seven was a satisfactory year. The vital statistics maintained the improvement of sixty six and further improvement is likely in the future. The general health is excellent and the elderly are well nourished. Parents of infants continue to seek protection against the infectious diseases without exception. A satisfactory vaccine has been produced against measles. The vaccine is given by a single injection and the reactions are mild or absent and good protection is given. This has not caught on yet but it is hoped that more widespread knowledge will lead to increased use of the measles vaccine.

The number on the tuberculosis register stands at an all time low figure of four and moreover there is none of the four suffering from active tuberculosis.

The prospect of further housing development and the extension of industry bring hope of continued propperity to the area.

I should like to express my gratitude once more to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their support and interest.

LIVE BIRTHS	1967 M	F
Legitimate	9	16
Illegitimate	-	1
	26	

STILL BIRTHS	M	F
Legitimate	1	-
Illegitimate	-	1
	2	

	M	F
Death of infants under 1 week of age	-	-
" " " " 4 weeks " "	-	-
" " " " 1 year " "	-	-
	-	

ANNUAL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population

For this area	0.92
For Cumberland	16.3
For Rural District of Cumberland	16.0
For England and Wales	12.6

DEATHS	M	F
	13	10
	25	

ANNUAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated population

For this area	0.91
For Cumberland	12.3
For Rural District of Cumberland	12.3
For England and Wales	12.1
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	NIL

SECTION B

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
John R. Hassan, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.,
Cottage Hospital,
ALSTON

Public Health Inspector
R. W. Thomas, M.A.P.H.I.,
Town Hall,
ALSTON

2. (a) AMBULANCE

I am glad to report that the Ambulance and Sitting Car Service give every satisfaction in comfort, warmth and speed.

(b) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Consultant services are available at Carlisle and Newcastle. Physiotherapy is available on two mornings each week at the Cottage Hospital. Maternith and Child Welfare Clinics are held weekly at the Cottage Hospital provided of course by the Cumberland County Council. The School Dental Clinic is held one day a fortnight at the Cottage Hospital.

It is regretted that there is now no General Dental Practitioner Service, nor is there any immediate prospect of acquiring one. I estimate that there is about two days work a week for anyone interested.

SECTION C

WATER SUPPLIES

Following instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular 1/68

(a) The quality of the water supplied through the water mains was satisfactory. The various springs from which the supplies are derived are land springs in carboniferous limestone. The spring at Killhope, Nenthead has a fairly high iron content which causes slight dicolouration under normal circumstances but the discolouration becomes pronounced when the flow through the mains is interrupted in some way.

(b) Two Type A.H.W.M. reagent feeders are installed at Springfield, Alston and one at Killhope, Nenthead. Iron in suspension causes difficulty in maintaining the Nenthead machine in working order.

(c) None of the water supplies are liable to plumbo solvency.

(d) Action taken in the event of contamination is covered by (b) above

(e)	No. of dwelling houses supplied	(1) direct to houses	701
		(2) by standpipes	7
	No. of population supplied	(1) direct to houses	1954
		(2) by standpipes	13

SEWERS AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The position with regard to sewers and sewerage disposal is unchanged from last year, but the Council have engaged Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme for extending the sewers at Alston and by modernising and extending the outfall works, which are at present badly overloaded.

The works, when designed in 1936, allowed for 20 g.p.d. per person, whereas a more realistic figure would be in excess of 40 g.p.d. and the existing works are now overloaded volumetrically and biologically.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the district.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The refuse collection service in the district is being extended, and whilst the three main centres of population receive a weekly collection, the outlying properties are visited on the first Wednesday of each month. For this outlying collection, an experimental system using paper sacks is being tried, four sacks being left at each house on collection days.

Up to the present, the scheme is operating successfully.

My remarks with regard to salvage collection still apply, but possibly if we were to combine with other authorities some form of collection could be undertaken.

SANITARY POSITION OF THE AREA

Number of inspections	575
Nuisances report	2
Nuisances abated by informal notice	2
Informal notices	2
Statutory notices	NIL
Number of houses inspected	340
Number of houses disinfected	-
New houses erected (Local Authority)	NIL
New houses erected (Privately)	2
Plans submitted	25
Plans approved	22
Plans - Permitted Development - submitted	3
.. .. .. approved	3
Number of sewer connections	5
Number of water connections	6
Houses demolished	-
Houses closed	-

FACTORIES

(i) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

Premises	No. on register	No. of inspections	No. of written notices	No. of occupied properties
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enfored by Local Authority	4	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	11	20	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)-		-	-	-
	15	22	-	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found .. .. NIL

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number on the register remained at 30 and all premises were visited at least once during the year.

One notification of accident was received.

SECTION D

HOUSING

(a) Local Authority

Again progress with Local Authority housing has been slow, although, but for bad weather the four two bedroomed flats at Nenthead would have been completed.

Also tenders were invited for the erection of 38 dwellings at Jollybeard Lane, Alston, when the tender of Messrs. Benson & Dixon was accepted subject to certain adjustments in price and specification.

A further setback was the devaluation of the pound which meant an increase of 4½% approximately to the cost of the scheme.

Every effort was made to have the work commenced in the spring of 1968.

(b) Private

There has been a resurgence of private housing development in the area, what with the first new private house during this century being occupied in the village of Carrigill.

In addition planning approval has been granted for the erection of an estate of 15 bungalows at Middle Park, The Wardway, Alston, an estate of 9 dwellings at Potter's Lonning, Clitheroe, Alston and one bungalow near Blackhouse Farm, Park Lane, Alston.

POST WAR HOUSING

Council houses completed at the end of 1965	153
Privately owned houses	20
Estimated number of houses unfit for habitation ..	[illegible]
which cannot be made fit at reasonable cost	30
Number of houses overcrowded	7
Total number of applicants for Council houses	59

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of privately owned houses for which Improvement Grants were sought	7
Number of applicants for Grants approved	7
Number of Improvements completed	3
Improvement Grant total(including £100 Interim payment)	736.10.0.

STANDARD GRANTS

Number of Standard Grant applications granted	8
Number of Standard Grant work completed	5
Standard Grant total	752.0.9.

SECTION E

MEATS

One privately owned slaughterhouse was operated satisfactorily during the year.

There was no evidence of Cisticercus bovis.

The throughput for the slaughterhouse for the year was :

Cattle 131 Sheep 429

MILK

Number of retailers 8.

Again attention is drawn to the condition of milk bottles. The public are largely to blame as oftern there are long delays before the empty bottles are returned to the dairyman. Also care on all sides should be taken to prevent the chipping of the necks of bottles and chipped bottles should NOT be used.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

Again the various establishments have been satisfactory. They are as follows :

	Licenced Hotels	Temperance Hotels	Snack Bars	Fish & Chip Shops	Total
* Alston	6	1	2	2	10
Nenthead	1	-	-	-	1
Garrigill	1	-	- v	-	1

* Two Hotels have table licences only.

The total number of licenced premises are as under :

Alston	8
Nenthead	3
Garrigill	1
	12

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955,

Making saudage and pressed meats 2
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream only .. 10

RECORD OF FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED DURING 1967

	Tins	lbs	ozs		Tins	lbs	ozs
Meat Loaf	13	9	12	Stewed Steak	1		15½
Soup	1		15½	Salmon	1		3¾
Processed Peas	5	4	12½	Garden Peas	4	3	9
Pineapple	10	10	6½	Fruit Salad	3	5	7
Pears	6	8	4	Peaches	2	1	15
Grapefruit	11	12	14½	Raspberries	19	17	13
Blackberries	1		14½	Prunes	3	2	14½
Beetroot	3	4	8	Marmalade	2	2	0

SECTION F

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Measles	17
Poliomyelitis vaccination	
Primary	25
Completed	23
Booster	—
Smallpox Vaccination	16
Triple Antigen	
Primary	28
Completed	23
Booster	—

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
1. TUBERCULOSIS, RESPIRATORY	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, BREAST	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
14. OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
17. VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
18. CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
20. OTHER HEART DISEASE	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
23. PNEUMONIA	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. BRONCHITIS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
29. HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
32. OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
33. MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	[illegible]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	7
	F	[illegible]	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	2	5